[5th September 1928

11-15 a.m. Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to clause (b), why the Government have no information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " There is no record in this office. It relates to punishments awarded by the Superintendent, Government Press. The Press alone will have that information."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" I should like to know whether a register of punishments is not maintained in the Government Press and whether that register is not available for scrutiny by the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" If the hon. Member wants the information, I will get it."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" With that view only the question was asked."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" If such a record was available, why, when an explicit question was asked, the Government did not think it necessary to get the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The reason is that it is not a very important matter at all."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" In the answer to clause (c), the Government say that they have not examined the remaining cases. May I know why ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" If they had preferred the appeal in time the Government would have examined them."

Mr. P. Bhakthavatsulu Nayudu :—" The answer to clause (b) is that the Government have no information. Is it because it is inconvenient to give the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I have already answered that question."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know whether the hon. the Home Member is aware of the fact that suspensions, dismissals, etc., have been very large in the Government Press ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " Yes, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" If he knew that, why does he say that he has not got the information called for in clause (b) ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " About this particular question I have no information. In reply to another question I have given detailed information."

Alleged withholding of leave salary to one Venugopal, machine-minder in the Government Press.

*135 Q.—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one M. E. Venugopal, machine-minder and a member of the Government Press Employees' Association, applied for leave with a medical certificate in October 1927 but was only granted leave without pay ;

(b) whether the applicant was then eligible for leave with pay ;

5th September 1928]

(c) whether the Superintendent had been informed in Government Memorandum No. 1000-2, Finance, dated 17th February 1926, that leave salary must be allowed if leave is available and is granted ;

(d) if so, why Venugopal was not allowed leave salary and what action was taken against the Superintendent for disregarding the Government Memorandum No. 1000-2, Finance, dated 17th February 1926 ; and

(e) whether the applicant appealed to Government against the order of the Superintendent and whether he was informed that there was no right of appeal and if so, why ?"

A.—(*a*) M. E. Venugopal on 1st December 1927 applied for leave from 17th November 1927 to 7th December 1927 on the basis of a medical certificate. The leave was refused and he was therefore absent without leave.

(*b*) Government have no information.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The questions do not arise.

(*e*) Yes. The rules do not provide for appeals in such cases. Discretion to refuse leave is vested by rule in the Superintendent, Government Press.

Alleged refusal of casual leave to certain employees in the Government Press.

*136 *Q.*—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Arumugham, type-caster, Narasiah, Sarangapani and K. P. Rangaswami, machine-minders, Annamalai, baller, and P. A. Narayanaswami, compositor, in the Government Press, applied for a day's casual leave for reasons of ill-health or domestic urgency and whether it was refused ;

(*b*) whether the absence was treated as leave without pay ; and

(*c*) if so, why ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information. Discretion to refuse leave to such persons is reserved by rule to Superintendent, Government Press.

Contract for the supply of articles required by the Government Press.

*137 *Q.*—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the contract for the supply of several articles required by the Government Press is being given to one and the same person for years ;

(*b*) whether the price of each of the articles given on contract is being verified with reference to the price of the market ; and

(*c*) if so, whether he will be pleased to furnish a comparative statement of those articles for the years 1926-27, 1927-28 and 1928-29 ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" The inference from the question is that there is some kind of jobbery going as regards the supply of several articles. When large amounts are involved, why should Government say that they have no information ? "